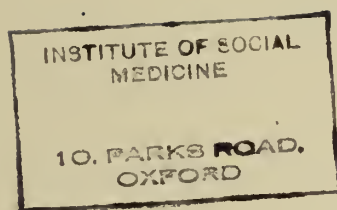


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JOINT COUNTY COUNCIL OF MORAY & NAIRN

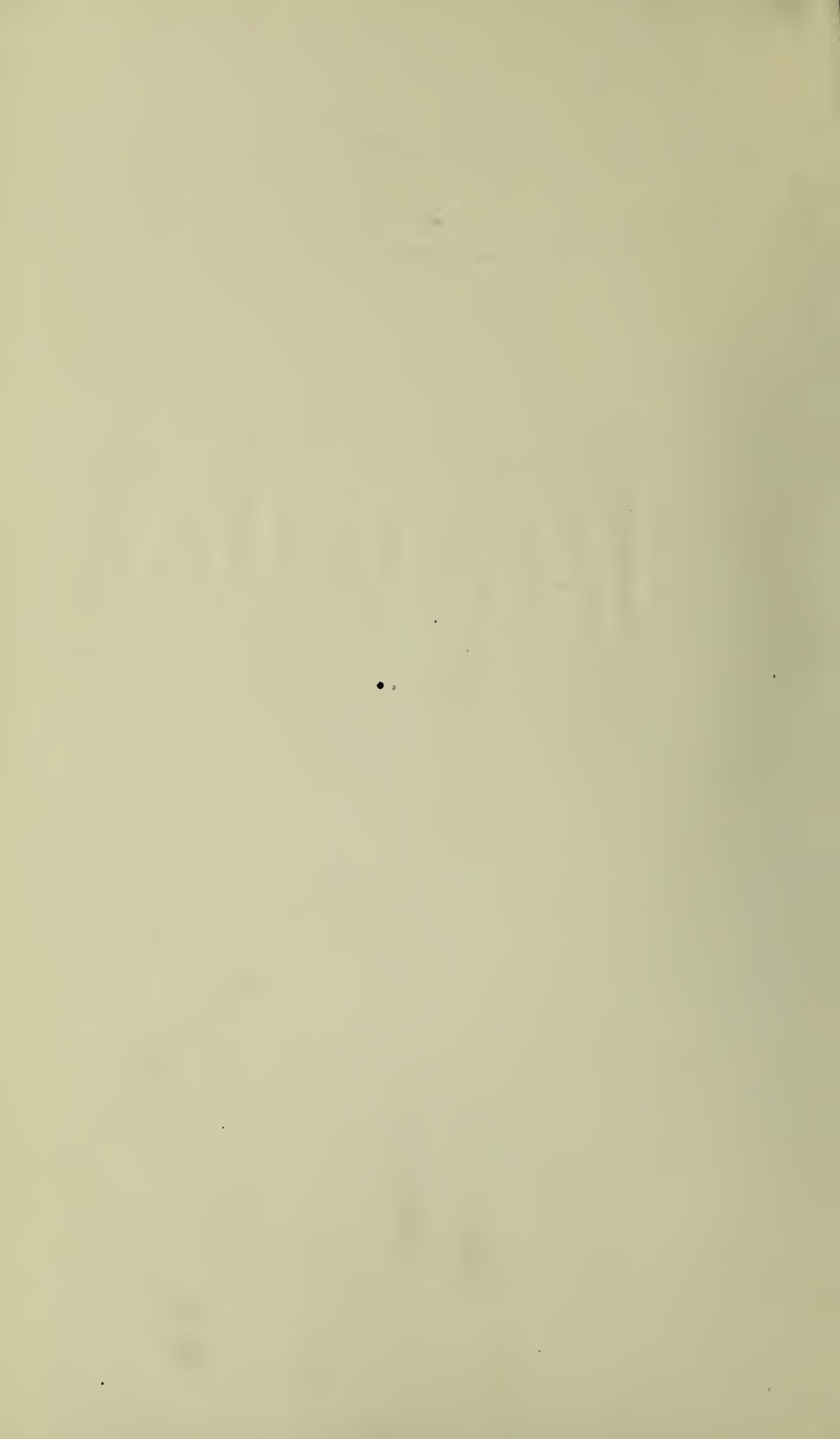
R E P O R T

by

The Medical Officer of Health

for

1946.



County Buildings,

Elgin.

19th January, 1948.

To the Joint County Council
of Moray and Nairn.

My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual
Report on the Public Health of Moray and Nairn for the
year ending 31st December, 1946.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

I C Morrow

Medical Officer of Health.

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VITAL STATISTICS

Population.

Estimate at middle of 1946 52,050

Births, Deaths and Marriages.

Total live births, corrected for transfer.	1,122	21.6	per 1,000 population
Legitimate	1,004	89.5	% total births
Illegitimate	118	10.5	% total births
Total still-births, corrected for transfer.	40	34.5	per 1,000 total births
Marriages	513	9.9	per 1,000 population
Deaths, all causes, corrected for transfer	697	13.4	per 1,000 population
Tuberculosis (all forms)	20	5.8	per 100,000 population
" (respiratory)	15	4.85	per 100,000 population
Principal epidemic diseases	5	0.96	per 100,000 population
Children aged under one year	55	49.0	per 1,000 live births

Causes of Deaths.

Deaths from tuberculosis of all kinds approximate to the average for the war years, and are below the average of the pre-war decade.

Deaths from infectious diseases of all kinds approximate to the average for the war years, and are less than half of the average for the pre-war decade. The chief fall has been in deaths due to influenza which were one fifth of the pre-war average. Deaths due to other infectious diseases all showed decreases in varying degrees.

Respiratory diseases have also accounted for fewer deaths, the total being some 30% below the pre-war average.

Cancer deaths were in line with the average for the war years, and some 20% above the average for the pre-war years. Approximately 15% of all deaths were due to cancer.

Deaths due to heart disease, disease of the arteries, and nephritis, may be loosely classed as the heart-failure and high blood-pressure group. This group continues to increase in numbers, and accounted for 45% of all deaths.

In all other cases, average figures have been returned.

Age Incidence of Deaths.

1	1	5	10	15	20	35	45	55	65	75	85	No age
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
1	4	9	14	24	34	44	54	64	74	84	+	
55	4	6	5	7	12	33	56	100	173	175	71	-

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

Births.

Total births notified as occurring in the area	1,124
Maternity Services Scheme	270
Other domiciliary cases	247
Institutional cases	575

<u>Home Visits.</u>	<u>First Visit</u>	<u>Total Visits</u>
Expectant mothers	598	3,027
Infants	980	9,036
Children (1 to 5 years)	2,817	8,209

Ante-natal and Post-natal Clinics.

No such clinics are provided by the Local Authority.

Two clinics for ante- and post-natal services and gynaecological conditions are provided by Voluntary Bodies. To these all classes of the community, including patients treated under the Maternity Services Scheme, have access. In addition, a third Voluntary Body provides a gynaecological clinic at which some ante-natal cases are seen.

	<u>Ante-natal</u>	<u>Post-natal</u>
Number of attendances	360	85

Infant Mortality.

Infant deaths, corrected for transfer, numbered 55, giving an infant mortality rate of 49 per thousand live births.

Causes of Infant Mortality (uncorrected)

	<u>In first 4 weeks</u>	<u>In remainder of first year</u>	<u>Total</u>
Premature Birth	16	-	16
Congenital Debility	2	-	2
Congenital Malformation	6	1	7
Injury at Birth	2	-	2
Respiratory Diseases	1	9	10
Alimentary Diseases	-	1	1
Other Causes	-	6	6
Total	<u>27</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>44</u>

Stillbirths.

Stillbirths, corrected for transfer, numbered 40, giving a stillbirth rate of 34.5 per thousand total births.

Causes of stillbirth (uncorrected)

Difficult Labour	4
Malformation	7
Antepartum Haemorrhage	3
Acute Toxaemia	-
Chronic Disease of Mother	2
Other Causes	<u>6</u>
Total	<u>29</u>

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

The report for the session ending 31st July, 1946, has already been published.

INFECTIOUS DISEASENotifications during the Year.

	<u>Notified</u>	<u>Removed to Hospital</u>
Scarlet Fever	88	65
Diphtheria	28	27
Erysipelas	14	31
Acute Primary Pneumonia	52	29
Influenzal Pneumonia	1	1
Cerebro-spinal Fever	8	8
Dysentery	10	4
Paratyphoid B.	2	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	6	5
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1
Total	<u>240</u>	<u>173</u>

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Number of new immunisations completed from 1:1:46 to 31:12:46:-

Children born in 1945.....	226
1944.....	278
1943.....	45
1942.....	10
1941.....	9
1940.....	37
1932 - 1939.....	46
Total	<u>651</u>

No maintenance inoculations were given during the period.

Diphtheria in relation to immunisation.

	<u>Cases confirmed</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
Immunised persons	16	-
Non-immunised persons	12	2

Commentary.

Diphtheria. Fewer notifications were received in only four previous years since 1930, viz:-

<u>1931</u>	<u>1932</u>	<u>1937</u>	<u>1941</u>
11	18	14	25

To some extent the low figure is due to the recent prevalence, and the diminution in the number of susceptible persons. Partly, however, it is due to diphtheria immunisation, proof of this statement being found in the entirely new phenomenon of total absence of diphtheria from the area for the period commencing November, 1946. This period did not end until May, 1947, when a case infected out-with the area developed diphtheria.

Scarlet Fever. This condition continues to be very mild, and the number of cases reasonably low.

Erysipelas. A surprisingly large number of notifications was received, considering that the prevalence of this condition usually follows that of scarlet fever. Of the 44 cases, 5 were surgical. One patient accounted for two notifications.

The Pneumonias. In the fifteen years from 1931, the notifications for primary pneumonia in 1946 have been exceeded once, in 1935, and equalled once, in 1933. Those for influenzal pneumonia could hardly be lower.

Cerebro-spinal Fever. remains more prevalent than in the years up to 1939, but is the whole less prevalent than in the war years.

Dysentery/

Dysentery, practically unknown in Mersey and Nairn before 1938, has varied widely in prevalence during the last decade. The figure for 1946 occupies a middle position in the series.

Enteric. Two cases of paratyphoid, the first since 1941, were notified at a time when this disease was prevalent elsewhere in Scotland. No connection between the cases was traced, and none with any other case.

Puerperal Pyrexia. Of the five cases admitted to hospital, one died of streptococcal meningitis, two were found to have urinary conditions. Four of the patients had had instrumental or complicated confinements.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Notifications in 1946.

		<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-pulmonary</u>	<u>Total</u>
Adults	male	38	3	41
	female	18	5	23
Children	male	1	5	6
	female	2	6	8
Total		<u>59</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>78</u>

Admissions to hospital.

Adults	- male	27	1	28
	- female	19	4	23
Children	- male	-	1	1
	- female	1	1	2
Total		<u>47</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>54</u>

Discharges.

Adults	- male	22	1	23
	- female	16	1	17
Children	- male	-	-	-
	- female	-	1	1
Total		<u>38</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>41</u>

Deaths.

Adults	- male	6	2	8
	- female	7	-	7
Children	- male	1	2	3
	- female	1	1	2
Total		<u>15</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>20</u>

Tuberculosis Allowances.

Granted	8
Refused	2
Under consideration at 31/12/46	2
Total applications	<u>12</u>

Allowances discontinued in 1946

On recovery	4
On death	3
In institutions	1
Otherwise	7
Total	<u>15</u>

Allowances being paid at 31/12/46 15

Dispensary Attendances.

<u>Attendances</u>	<u>A.P. Treatments</u>	<u>Total</u>
224	109	333
x-ray examinations		147
The/		

The scheme provides for the prompt investigation of cases notified, their full treatment, and the after-care of those who can readily attend the dispensaries. I have never found it possible to undertake domiciliary visiting on the same scale, nor to follow up and examine contacts adequately.

The re-housing of tuberculous persons is still a serious problem. The suggestion in my last Report that the Joint County Council should approach the nine Housing Authorities to formulate an agreed policy has not so far borne fruit. I therefore repeat it here.

VENEREAL DISEASE

Under the Combined Scheme for the North Eastern Counties of Scotland, the following cases have been dealt with:-

New Civilian Cases.

Syphilis			Chan- creid	Gonorrhoea			Other Venereal conditions	Total Venere- al	Non Venere- al
Acquired	Congen- ital	Total		Gen- ital	Ophthal- mia	Total			
19	-	19	1	18	-	18	14	52	9

Particulars of In-patients, and of Out-patient Attendances.

<u>No. of In-patients</u>	<u>Days in Hospital</u>	<u>Out-patient Attendances</u>
32	349	228

Drugs supplied to Doctors and Institutions.

<u>Doses supplied</u>	<u>No. of Doctors supplied</u>	<u>No. of Institutions supplied</u>
814	15	1

Laboratory Findings.

Syphilis								Gonorrhoea Smears	Total	
Wassermann		Laughlin		C.S.F.		Spirochaetes				
+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	
53	345	66	332	1	13	5	5	50	187	1,057

Treatment by Local Practitioners.

The scheme for the treatment of venereal disease by local practitioners in Elgin continues to give satisfactory results. In 1946, 37 cases attended on 321 occasions.

Regulation 33B

During 1946 two first notices concerning two individuals were received. Both were dealt with unofficially.

DIABETES.

During 1946, insulin was issued to 13 diabetic patients.

CANCER AND MALIGNANT DISEASE.

No scheme, interim or otherwise, has yet been made under the Cancer Act, 1939. Discussions are still proceeding with a view to making a co-ordinated scheme to cover the north and north-east of Scotland.

MENTAL/

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

Cases of mental disease from Morayshire are admitted to the Morayshire Mental Hospital, those from Nairnshire to the Inverness and Northern Counties Asylum.

Cases dealt with in 1946:-

	<u>Moray & Nairn</u>	<u>Other areas</u>	<u>Total</u>
At 1/1/46	240	4	244
Admitted in year	37	4	41
Discharged	13	5	18
Died	16	-	16
At 31/12/46	248	3	251

In addition 63 cases from Moray and Nairn were under observation in their own homes.

Cases of Mental Deficiency continue to present a serious problem.

During 1946, the following cases were dealt with:-

	<u>Educable</u>	<u>Ineducable</u>
In institutions at 1/1/46	6	3
Admitted	1	1
Discharged	-	-
In institutions 31/12/46	7	4

SICK POOR

Eleven District Medical Officers attend the Sick Poor in their homes. Two of the eleven are Medical Officers in charge, respectively, of the sick wards at Craigmarley and Balblair Homes. This arrangement works well, and the patients, both domiciliary and hospital, are well cared for.

Cases dealt with in 1946:-

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Children</u>	<u>Total</u>
Persons who received out-patient medical relief	30	110	16	156
Persons who received treatment in				
(1) The Council's Institutions	42	44	6	92
(2) Other Institutions or Hospitals	-	-	-	-

HOSPITALS/

SPITALS.

The implications of the Hospital Survey were discussed at length in my last report. I therefore propose to deal very briefly with the Joint County Hospital, Elgin.

This hospital is in three parts:-

The New Hospital, Bishophill.

The beds total 60, and there is accommodation for a nursing staff of 21, and a resident domestic staff of 6. For some years past the nursing staff available has been barely adequate for this hospital. Actually, it has for several years proved sufficient for housing all cases except those of tuberculosis,

The Old Hospital, Bishophill.

Now that a wooden hut is being converted to quarters for one of the male staff, this hospital has 24 beds. There is accommodation for 6 nurses, and 2 domestic staff. The wards are gloomy, out-of-date, and difficult to work. The nurses home is quite inadequate.

The Smallpox Annexe, New Elgin.

The beds total 8, and there is accommodation for 2 nurses and 1 domestic staff. The resident caretaker would remain as cook if the hospital were in use.

In my view, the least expensive way to provide an adequate infectious diseases hospital for a wide area, more than that of Murray and Nairn, would be to build wards for 24 to 40 beds at the New Hospital, and to add to the staff accommodation there. The other two hospitals could then be disposed of. Only in this way can a workable hospital be provided.

On the subject of medical attendance, I refer to my last report, in which I discussed the Hospital Survey Report, and offered an amendment. It is to be hoped that the Regional Hospital Board will quickly adopt one or other of the suggestions put forward.

REGISTRATION OF NURSING HOMES.

One nursing home is registered in Murray and Nairn, and is conducted in an excellent manner.

The County Council has continued to grant unconditional exemption from registration to Dr. Gray's Hospital, Elgin, Leanehill Hospital, Forres, The Town and County Hospital, Nairn, and the Ian Charles Hospital, Grantown-on-Spey. The first is a general hospital recognised as a training school for the General part of the Registrar. The other three are cottage hospitals with maternity wards.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The following ambulances are available in Murray and Nairn:-

Elgin.

1. One ambulance owned by the local St. Andrew's Ambulance Association, available for all non-infectious cases. Scheduled for replacement.
2. One ambulance owned by the Joint County Council. Available for infectious cases only. In good order.

3. One ambulance owned by the Joint County Council.
Available for infectious cases only.
Not in first class order, used as a relief vehicle.

Levensmouth.

4. One ambulance owned by the British Red Cross Society.
Available for all non-infectious cases.
In good order.

Forres.

5. One ambulance owned by Forres and District Ambulance Association.
Available for all non-infectious cases.
In good order but structurally unsuitable, should be replaced.
6. One ambulance owned by the British Red Cross Society, and hired to Department of Health for Scotland.
Available only for transfer of patients between Altyre Auxiliary Hospital and Raigmore M.M. Hospital.
In good order.

Nairn.

7. One ambulance owned by the Directors of the Nairn Hospital.
Available for all non-infectious cases.
Should be replaced.
8. One ambulance owned by the British Red Cross Society.
Available for all non-infectious cases.
In good order.

Grantown-on-Spey.

9. One ambulance owned by the Town Council.
Available for all non-infectious cases.
In fair order but requiring replacement before very long.
10. One shooting-brake, usable as ambulance, owned by the Strathspey Garage.
Available for all non-infectious cases.
Probably in good order.

Numerically, therefore, Moray and Nairn is well served. Co-ordination of services over a wide area should lead to economy in number of vehicles, and ease in securing drivers.

In my last report I put forward the view that a regional hospital scheme would break down without an adequate supply of ambulances at all strategic points, and that the provision of ambulances should, therefore, be the first consideration of the appropriate authority. Nothing has transpired in the interim to alter that opinion. On the contrary, I believe firmly that provisions must be made for all classes of cases, to be transported by all methods, road, rail, and air.

Laboratory/

LABORATORY SERVICES.

During 1946, the following specimens were examined:-

Bacillary Dysentery	107
Weil's Disease	2
Undulant Fever	28
Glandular Fever	4
Shigellosis	6
Tuberculosis	321
Venereal Diseases	1,054
Diphtheria	1,091
Enteric and Food Poisoning	85
Biochemical	104
Haematological	374
General	1,188
Animal Inoculations	55
Water	118
Milk	563

5,370

The service rendered by the City Hospital Laboratory, Aberdeen, continues to be comprehensive and excellent in quality.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

The County Council has continued its policy of health education by example rather than by precept.

The District Nurses, by their visits under the maternity and child welfare schemes, disseminate knowledge of the health needs of mothers and young children.

For the older children, good, clean, well-ventilated schools provide an example to the rising generation, and should lead to the provision in the future of good, clean, well-ventilated homes.

Similarly, the school medical and dental services, by drawing attention to defects and securing their remedy, inculcate the habit of early attention to ailments and, thereby, their rapid eradication.

The foregoing is, in my view, fundamental to the success of any plan of health education, and its lack is bound to affect adversely any attempted dissemination of knowledge.

PORT HEALTH ADMINISTRATION.

The fishing ports of Moray and Nairn received no visits from ships from foreign ports in 1946.

FOOD SUPPLIES.

1. MILK.

Inspection of dairy premises was carried out by the sanitary inspectors. These premises in respect of which designated licences were issued were inspected from time to time during the year. The remaining registered and exempted premises were inspected as required.

Complaints concerning unsatisfactory milk were fewer than in previous years.

No cases of failure to comply with the Dairy Bye-laws were brought to notice.

There were on the Register at 31st December, 1946, 117 Dairies, 94 being in the County of Moray and 23 in the County of Nairn.

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Orders (Scotland) 1936 to 1944, 39 licences were issued, as follows:-

Certified Producers	9
Tuberculin Tested	23
Standard	3
Heat Treated	1
Dealer's Licences	<u>3</u>
	<u>39</u>

A total of 229 samples of milk was taken under the Orders.

2. MEAT.

At the four slaughterhouses the following weights of meat were condemned:-

	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Calves</u>	
Elgin	18253	1209	453	354	lbs.
Forres	7707	1239	58	293	"
Nairn	11016	219	6	-	"
Grantown	3922	23	-	-	"
Total	<u>40898</u>	<u>2690</u>	<u>517</u>	<u>647</u>	<u>"</u>

3. OTHER FOOD.

A total of 4296 lbs. of unsound food was dealt with in terms of the Public Health (Scotland) Act 1897, Section 43.

A total of 81 samples of food was taken for the purpose of ascertaining adulteration. Nearly all were unofficial and where any deficiency was found, the subsequent official sample invariably complied.

No outbreak of food poisoning was brought to notice in 1946. It is possible that the medical profession and the general public are not aware of the obligation to notify this condition to the Medical Officer of Health.

The general nutrition of the community continued to be satisfactory.

GENERAL SANITATION.

The Reports issued by the Sanitary Inspectors are given, in precis form where necessary.

ELGIN.

Water Supply. Total Annual Supply 184,925,895 gallons.

The water supply is obtained from three sources, Kellas, Easterton, and Blackhills. Work was completed at Kellas and Easterton to minimise the risk of contamination by flood water. Apart from local stoppages for repairs and new connections, the supply has been continuous. Certain replacements in the chlorinating plant have been needed. The new housing on the Lessiemouth and Covesca roads necessitated the laying of mains of from 3" to 9" diameter. Waste inspection revealed 1092 defective fittings and 86 notices to repair were served. Chemical and Bacteriological samples were uniformly excellent. Augmentation of the supply is desired and a survey of the Glenlatterach gathering ground has been authorised.

Drainage and Sewage Purification. Total treated 242,612,883 gallons.

The sewers were inspected, manholes cleaned, and repairs carried out as required. Sewerage was laid for the new housing site on the Lessiemouth and Covesca roads. Plans were approved for a new sewage disposal works and new sewers, sufficient for all needs of the Burgh and New Elgin.

Offensive Trades.

No complaints have been received in connection with the tannery in the Burgh.

Slaughterhouse.

Occupied by the Ministry of Food. The premises have been well maintained.

Burial Grounds.

As burial in the Cathedral precincts is restricted, only five interments took place.

Lodging House.

The one lodging house provided accommodation for 13542 nights by adults, and for 250 nights by children.

Housing.

Temporary houses of the Arcan type to the number of 52 were completed and occupied. Twenty permanent houses of traditional type reached wall-head level. The preliminary work in connection with the erection of twenty four permanent houses was undertaken. Targets of 170 permanent houses to be commenced in 1946, and 150 each for 1947 and 1948 were decided upon.

Nuisances, Dirty Houses, Dirty Water Closets.

A total of 26 intimations, notifications or communications were served in the year.

Cleansing/

Cleansing.

Refuse disposal is by controlled tipping. One complaint concerning refuse disposal was found to have no basis. The department's transport is now wholly mechanical. Salvage operations continued and yielded the highest financial profit for four years.

FORRES.

Water Supply.

The water available in Loch Rannach has always been ample, but the main pipe, especially in frosty weather, is unable to keep the service reservoir full. Water was, therefore, turned off on several occasions at the beginning of the year to allow this reservoir to fill. The mains have been kept in good order. Waste inspection has been carried out, as householders had become careless in maintaining their fittings. Chemically, and bacteriologically the water remains excellent.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The sewers are in good working order, and were cleansed as required. New sewerage was laid for new housing.

Nuisance.

Twenty four nuisances were brought to light and promptly dealt with.

Scavenging.

The arrangements are carried out partly by contract and partly by direct labour, and this has proved more satisfactory. The daily load is about five tons. The refuse dump is kept in good order, sprayed with insecticide, and visited by rat-catchers.

NAIRN.

Housing.

Fifty temporary houses were erected and occupied.

Twenty four permanent houses, to be built by private enterprise, were commenced. Tenders for 68 permanent houses of traditional and 12 of "Cruden" type were accepted. One large house has been taken over for conversion into flats.

Water Supply.

For the prosperity of a town and especially a summer resort such as Nairn, a more than ample supply is necessary. The domestic water of the town is of quite good quality and a sufficient supply was maintained throughout the year.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The drainage of the Burgh is in quite good condition. During the year a few minor drainage schemes were laid down and satisfactorily tested. In order to relieve flooding and to obviate the Fishertown being flooded at certain times of the year, a new sewage scheme has been passed by the Town Council.

Scavenging.

The scavenging of the Burgh is carried out by five Burgh workmen with Bantam motor Cleansing vehicle. The nature and capacity of the receptacles for household refuse leave much to be desired.

to be desired, but the householders even in those days of shortages could help to make the system of collection a success.

Nuisances.

Several complaints of nuisances were received and attended to during the year. These complaints were chiefly in connection with filthy yards and choked drains.

Common Lodging-Houses.

There are no registered Lodging-Houses in the Burgh but there is one house used as such. Numerous inspections have been carried out with unsatisfactory results. The out-houses and stables which, in the past, were used as sleeping accommodation have now been demolished, and conditions, as far as this is concerned, are better than they were formerly.

LOSSIEMOUTH.

Housing.

Housing generally has been limited to 20 houses of the D.H.S. type. About £40,000 has been expended on Site Preparations. The waiting list of applicants has been classified according to the Council's points scheme.

Nuisances.

Only a very few nuisances, all in the form of choked drains, required to be dealt with by formal intimation. Several other cases, discovered in the course of normal inspection, were dealt with on the spot.

Water.

There have been no changes in the system during the year. Supply was maintained during the year although difficulty was experienced during the summer months, but fortunately not to the same extent as in other years. The chlorination of the water has been uniform. The plant has been in continuous operation since July 1943. Nearly 2 miles of new main has been completed during the year and serves the housing sites on Coulardhill and Tulloch's Brae. An inspection of the source at Blackhills was made during the summer and some cleaning of pipes carried out which increased the flow from the gathering grounds.

Sewerage.

In the course of the preparation of layouts for housing sites consideration had to be given to the engineering problems of the disposal of surface water and sewage. This question was gone into very thoroughly and a report prepared outlining the work considered necessary. Part of these proposals, the laying of a 9" sewer down Kinneddar Street, was done during the year. The East outfall sewer was thoroughly inspected where it runs parallel to the old harbour. It is in very poor condition and steps will have to be taken to have it relaid at a greatly increased diameter. The sewer along Clifton Road will also have to be considered.

Generally throughout the Burgh the maintenance of sewers presented no especial difficulty although some areas are liable to flooding. Flushing is carried out as required and frequent inspections are made.

Cleansing/

Cleansing.

The cleanliness of the Burgh has been reasonably well maintained and the refuse vehicle has performed its function satisfactorily. Attention is drawn to the shocking variety of receptacles as refuse bins. They range from fish boxes to practically bottomless enamel basins. This has been difficult to rectify in times of shortage but the situation is now so bad that steps will have to be taken to deal with it. Cut hands among the employees are a commonplace as one result.

ROTHES.

Water Supply.

The water supply proved sufficient for the needs of the community during the year. It is doubtful, however, if the supply would meet requirements during the dry weather, and the question of augmentation of the supply will require to be considered.

Drainage.

The drainage system worked satisfactorily and no complaints were received. To try to prevent flooding of streets a relief storm overflow was laid from New Street to Rothes Burn.

Scavenging.

The scavenging arrangements continued to function satisfactorily: no complaints were received as to the condition of the dump.

Housing.

During the year four houses were under construction. These were of the permanent type.

Nuisances.

A few minor complaints were received and dealt with.

BURGHEAD.

Water Supply.

The water supply, part of the joint scheme for Burghead, Cummingston and Holuman, was well maintained during the year.

Drainage.

The Drainage system of the Burgh is fairly good and sewage is discharged into the sea on both sides of the Burgh. There is need for further private drainage as there are still 77 dry closets in the Burgh.

Scavenging.

The scavenging of the Burgh is done daily by the Town Council's cart and employees and the refuse is tipped over a rock on the foreshore and is always taken away with every tide.

Offensive Trades.

There is only the one offensive trade in the Burgh, namely, the Chemical Manure works which is conducted in a very satisfactory manner and never gives rise for any complaint.

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The foregoing reports indicate that environmental conditions are only fairly satisfactory, but that they are being steadily improved by the construction or renovation of houses, and the provision of additional water and drainage. These are long-term projects, of painful slowness to-day.

There is, however, one matter which could be greatly improved very quickly, namely the collection and disposal of refuse. A model scheme for the towns or villages of a rural area such as Moray and Nairn would include the following:-

1. The provision by householders of proper ash-bins, with effective lids and handles, for the reception of refuse.
2. The emptying of these bins as often as possible so as to avoid overfilling.
3. The scavengers should be careful to complete the emptying of bins, and to replace the lids.
4. Dust carts should be opened to the least possible extent compatible with speedy working:- should always be completely closed when travelling, but not picking up refuse: and should never be overfilled.
5. Disposal should be by controlled tipping well away from habitations and the tips should be sprayed with suitable insecticides to prevent fly nuisance, and should be visited by rat-catchers, to prevent nuisance from these vermin.

There is no doubt that there is not complete compliance with these requirements in Moray and Nairn. One Burgh Sanitary Inspector draws attention to the shocking variety of receptacles in use, and in this connection it should now be fairly easy to remedy the ravages of six years of war.

With regard to the siting of refuse tips, the tendency for the town to engulf the tip must be watched carefully. A tip which is no nuisance in the country may rapidly become one if embraced by a town. The discontinuance of tipping should precede the erection of houses in the immediate neighbourhood.

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A P P E N D I X

(i)

Table of Causes of Death

1.	Typhoid Fever	-
2.	Cerebro-spinal Fever	-
3.	Scarlet Fever	-
4.	Whooping Cough	-
5.	Diphtheria	2
6.	Tuberculosis (respiratory)	15
7.	Tuberculosis (other forms)	5
8.	Syphilis	1
9.	Influenza	3
10.	Measles	-
11.	Other Infectious Diseases	5
12.	Cancer - malignant tumours	105
13.	Tumours - non-malignant and not defined	3
14.	Acute Rheumatism	2
15.	Diabetes Mellitus	6
16.	Other General Diseases	6
17.	Meningitis, disease of spinal cord	4
18.	Cerebral haemorrhage	95
19.	Other Nervous Diseases	17
20.	Heart Disease	191
21.	Other Circulatory Diseases	14
22.	Bronchitis	18
23.	Pneumonia	24
24.	Other Respiratory Diseases	7
25.	Gastric and Duodenal Ulcer	10
26.	Diarrhoea	2
27.	Appendicitis	3
28.	Cirrhosis of Liver	1
29.	Other Diseases of Liver	3
30.	Other Digestive Diseases	12
31.	Nephritis, acute or chronic	21
32.	Other Urinary Diseases	13
33.	Puerperal Sepsis	1
34.	Other Puerperal causes	2
35.	Diseases of Skin and organs of movement	2
36.	Congenital Debility. Premature Birth, Malformation	41
37.	Old Age	28
38.	Suicide	-
39.	Road Transport	11
40.	Other Violence	19
41.	Not defined or unknown	5

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(ii)

Distribution of Cases

	County of Moray	Burgh of Elgin	Burgh of Forres	Burgh of Grantown.	Burgh of Lossie	Burgh of Rothes	Burgh of Burghead	County of Nairn	Burgh of Nairn	Total
Scarlet Fever	43	20	1	1	11	3	-	5	4	88
Diphtheria	15	10	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	28
Erysipelas	17	14	5	-	4	-	-	1	3	44
Acute Primary Pneumonia	24	13	-	-	8	-	-	2	5	52
Influenzal Pneumonia	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	5	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	8
Dysentery	9	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	10
Paratyphoid B.	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	6
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	23	11	2	1	9	1	-	6	6	59
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	5	8	1	-	1	1	-	-	3	19
TOTAL	146	82	9	2	35	6	1	14	23	318

Seasonal Incidence

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Acute Primary Pneumonia	Influenzal Pneumonia	Cerebro- spinal Meningitis	Dysentery	Paratyphoid B.	Puerperal Pyrexia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Malaria	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Non- Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Total
January	5	10	4	8	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	1	33
February	4	3	3	8	-	1	4	-	1	-	-	3	1	28
March	9	2	1	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	24
April	6	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	14	1	27
May	9	5	4	8	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	7	1	35
June	4	2	4	3	-	1	3	-	1	-	-	4	2	24
July	6	1	5	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	8	3	26
August	6	1	5	2	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	3	2	23
September	8	1	3	5	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	5	1	25
October	3	2	3	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	17
November	16	-	7	5	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	31
December	12	-	3	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	25
TOTAL	88	28	44	52	1	8	10	2	6	1	-	59	19	318

(iii)

Age Incidence and Number of Removals to Hospital

	All ages	Under 1	1 - 4	5 - 14	15 - 24	25 - 34	35 - 44	45 - 64	65 & over	To Hosp.	Not t. Hosp.
Scarlet Fever	88	-	20	54	7	4	2	1	-	65	23
Diphtheria	28	1	4	8	10	3	1	1	-	27	1
Erysipelas	44	-	1	2	4	6	10	13	8	31	13
Acute Primary Pneumonia	52	10	13	1	4	5	2	9	8	29	23
Influenzal Pneumonia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	8	3	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	8	-
Dysentery	10	1	1	1	-	2	4	-	1	4	6
Paratyphoid B.	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	6	-	-	-	4	2	-	-	-	5	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	59	-	2	1	11	23	12	8	2	31	28
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	19	3	1	7	1	3	1	3	-	11	8
TOTAL	318	19	42	78	42	48	34	36	19	215	103